ENLIGHTENMENT, THE ROAD TO FREEDOM

by Mabel Hopkins

Have you ever seen a man sitting at a desk, pencil in hand, apparently wrestling mentally with a problem, and suddenly crying out to some one nearby, can't you give me enlightenment? What did he want? Freedom for his difficulty. Such is the state of mind of mankind, trying to solve the problem of life; and that cry is uttered collectively, and it is heard in the higher spheres. That is why from time to time World Teachers appear in the world to answer the cry of humanity for enlightenment.

What is enlightenment? The answer is, the knowledge of Truth, the freedom from ignorance. Jesus said, "Know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free." But how can we know the Truth?

Previous to the finding of Truth, some times with certain types of individuals it is necessary to investigate, to study all the different "isms," to read every kind of book or magazine which pretends to explain the truth. But a time of progress comes when such search has to give place to understanding, when the seeker must realize that he cannot reach his desired goal using different roads, or different travelers' guides.

When the searcher after truth realizes that he cannot get anywhere by practicing at the same time two cults, by reading at the same time the literature of two different organizations, though apparently similar, believing that both are good, or that one is an expansion of the other; when he realizes this, he has taken the first step to develop his understanding, to analize which of the last two choices he has made is nearer the truth, and then select either of them, ceasing to remain on the fence, or trying to ride on two horses at the same time.

When the searcher reaches this point, he has to start to study the motive back of each organization, whether it is directed by personality or principle; he has to consider the authenticity of the teachings, remembering that by their fruit ye shall know them.

After all, he must realize that there is no higher teacher than his own Higher Self, that his task consists in clearing his mind to allow this Higher Self to come through, to manifest, and this can only be done by concentration, by meditation on spiritual subjects. By this process he will be able to obey the Delphic command, "Know thyself," and find out that he is the son of God, heir to His Kingdom, possessing all health, all opulence, all peace, all enlightenment.

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THE MASTER AND THE STUDENT

When a student, seeking knowledge concerning the Higher Laws, reaches a certain place on the Spiritual Path, he will find, to his surprise, that instead of dealing with an 'Abstract Principle' (as metaphysicians name the Deity) he is now brought into contact with specific Beings who, through individual merit, have been given the responsibility of assisting in the evolution of the universe through the authority conferred upon Them by Cosmic Law. These Beings are known to evolving mankind as "The Masters of Love and Wisdom."

When the record of a student's lifestream is examined at inner levels, and he is found to be mature enough for wider service, he is brought to the attention of the Master in charge of a certain activity in line with his (the student's) training and capacity, after which his individual service to the Great Cosmic Law commences, even while he is yet unascended.

In the outer personality, he is completely unaware of this initiation, which accounts for the seeming disappointment, dissatisfaction and frustration very often encountered in the newly-awakened, but uncomprehending, student. At this time, he is rather inclined to doubt and disillusionment, as he is under the impression (like the majority of students on the Path) that when the Masters of Wisdom are contacted, his own individual effort ceases, and the seemingly 'humdrum' work pertaining to the Cosmic Office to which he has been assigned seems tiresome and unimportant.

If the advancing student could find it within himself to trust the Love and Wisdom of the Great One under Whose care and protection he has been lovingly placed by the Master of All Life, he would immediately realize that he was not being 'disciplined' but rather was being lovingly prepared for a far higher Office in the Father's Kingdom. He would then tackle the job at hand with zeal and enthusiasm; understanding the full meaning of the Master Jesus' statement:

". . . thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

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THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD

by Charity Masters

When driving down the street in an automobile, we are fully conscious of the fact that *we* are *not* the automobile, but merely passengers in a conveyance that will take us wherever we desire to go. We are, nevertheless, the driver—or the director—of where that vehicle will go. We steer it; apply the brakes; stop for red lights; or accelerate as required. We turn corners, park, and do whatever is necessary knowing that the car, though having considerable power of its own, still requires our directing intelligence in order for it to perform its service. We also know that in order to get the best service out of our cars, it is necessary to take good care of them—to give them the necessary "food" (gas and oil) that keeps them functioning, and to check the various parts every now and then to ensure that they are in good repair. It is washed and kept clean both inside and outside, and extra energy is often used to polish it in order to make it more beautiful. When it is new, it requires little effort to keep it shining and in good condition, but as it grows older, we realize that extra care is required to keep it in order so that it will compare favorably with the newer models, and many cars that have been given this careful attention and consideration over the years will still present a very good appearance and perform exceptionally well after many years of service.

Now the TEMPLE in which the God-Self resides is quite similar. The physical body is no more YOU than the car is—but merely the vehicle in which the God-Self (the real YOU) rides. The God-Flame anchored within the heart is the driver—or should be—and when It is allowed to direct, It will take the body, in comfort and safety, wherever it desires to go. It is when the vehicle attempts to go on its way alone, without the God Intelligence directing, that it gets into trouble, for the body can no more carry us to perfection than a driverless automobile can arrive at a set destination. As we allow the God-Self, the "I AM" in the heart, to control and direct our vehicles, rather than let them run wild and have their own way, we see that they are given the right "fuel" or food by eating only that which is good for us and in the right quantity to give the energy required; we re-charge them by proper rest and relaxation; and we keep the windows of the soul as pure and as clean as possible in order that the body may be comfortable and happy and thus perform its functions perfectly. When the physical body is in good order, it needs little attention other than keeping it immaculately clean (inside and out) and its various functions in Divine Order.

How much more important it is that we keep the TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD in divine working order than it is the automobile, for it is only thus that the God-Self, which is the CHRIST, at present entombed within the heart, may be liberated and enabled to take complete charge—directing us and our worlds toward ever-increasing God Perfection. We carry the HOLY OF HOLIES with us at all times, and the whole object of embodiment is to release the CHRIST which has been imprisoned within us for so long, and thus to bring greater blessings, not only into our own worlds, but into the worlds of all we contact and the very planet itself.

Since the physical vehicle is merely the reflection of what we THINK and FEEL, then the need is to bring these two mighty forces under our conscious control and purify them so that they can cooperate in the liberating of the Christ Self. This Christ Self is encased in an airless cell within the heart as a protection against the strong winds of impurity, discord and viciousness so prevalent in the atmosphere of Earth, and it is required of us to provide an atmosphere of love, peace, and calm so that when It *is* liberated, the Christ Flame will be sustained and enabled to expand, for remember, the Christ Self IS actually a tiny Flame, and when first liberated, It must have the proper atmosphere in which to grow and mature.

Therefore, again being brought to our attention is the marvelous "tool" of the New Age by which we can sweep away the debris of the ages that has accumulated in the mind and the feelings, registered in our memories, and manifested in our bodies and affairs. This, of course, is the Sacred Violet Fire which, when called into action through our bodies, minds, feelings, and auras, seizes the energy that has been wrongly qualified throughout the ages and transmutes it into perfection, so that it can be used again in a constructive manner.

The Christ Self has greater freedom to act when this Sacred Fire is used earnestly to transmute the mistakes of the past, thus preventing that energy from impinging itself upon It. As the Earth is made up of individual units, and as each one allows the Christ Self to expand and direct, so does more Beauty and Perfection manifest at that particular point in the universe. As these various TEMPLES OF THE LIVING GOD (the physical bodies) move about in their appointed places on the Earth, so does the LIVING GOD once again begin to take possession of the Earth and all upon it.

There was a time when the LIGHT ruled on this Earth, and there were outer physical buildings (or Temples) of the God Qualities of Love, Healing, Peace, Illumination, Wisdom, Precipitation, Purity, Truth, Beauty, Music, etc. These special foci were established to augment those qualities in the individuals living on the Earth at that time, and the Earth did manifest all those beautiful God Qualities. When the shadows began to fall through the misuse of the creative centers of thought and feeling, and discord and imperfection began to manifest, those individuals who would not abide by the constructive way of life began to establish foci of destructive qualities, and for thousands of years since that time, darkness, and not the Light, has ruled the Earth, but that condition is quickly coming to an end. Within the near future, as the LIVING GOD within each physical Temple is once again liberated through the use of the Violet Fire and allowed to come forth and take dominion and thus manifest purity and harmony, so will there be physical buildings or Temples of the special qualities mankind need established by which they may accelerate the Light in the heart, and thus, once again, will the LIGHT take dominion—*never to recede.*

The TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD should be recognized as a sacred holy instrument, and when we realize that the physical bodies of all we see, regardless of outer appearances, also house the LIVING GOD, we shall feel privileged to make the call for that blessed Sacred Violet Fire to enter their worlds-bringing beauty and perfection to each one. To do this for everyone we contact, will be rendering a selfless service to life.

GOD is alive within each physical heart. GOD is alive within us, or else we could not live, move, or have being. GOD is alive within us—waiting for us to become still enough that we may hear the "still small voice" and follow its delicate promptings. We must test those promptings day after day until we can distinguish between the REAL and the false. We must contemplate the GOD IN US as, placing our hands over our hearts, we remember the words of Jesus, the Great Teacher: "For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever!"

So let us use this "Sacred Tool," the Violet Fire, not only daily, but HOURLY, until we can both see and feel the difference in our worlds, and we begin to experience that indescribable sweet feeling of Divine Love, that deep feeling of Peace that nothing can disturb, that purity of thought, feeling, word and deed that makes us each a magnet that draws more and more God Perfection unto us. Then as the TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD walks down the street, or rides in any sort of conveyance whatsoever, or goes to business, or does the housework—whatever it may be—we each are a focus for all the Powers of Light and Love to use as a conductor for Their Mighty Blessings to once again manifest upon the Earth. We must know and feel, in every cell and fibre of our beings, that *now*—"I AM" THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD—the HOLY CHRIST SELF —blessing all we contact everywhere we move.

THE VALUE OF EXPECTANCY

If you receive a letter, and in that letter there is a statement that someone whom you love is coming to visit you, and with him, bringing a large sum of money for your use, you will have a joyous and expectant feeling within your heart, and a buoyant happiness that will sing through your feelings which will sustain you in perfect Faith until the loved one's arrival.

You have been told, and truly, that the Presence of God—"I AM"—is coming closer to every man, and that around this "I AM" Presence is Love, Supply, Peace, Happiness, and all the Beauty of the Godhead for your use today which will be released proportionately to the expansion of the Christ within.

Now we should cultivate the same assurance and expectancy in that promise that we have in the trust of the written word of an Earthly friend. Mankind uses the quality of expectancy and accepts it in the feeling world with regard to the coming of Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter, and enjoys, before fruition, in mental anticipation, the blessings and beauty which the coming season will soon offer. Because man has enjoyed the power of expectancy in one direction, he can develop it in regard to God's Good flowing toward him from the Sea of Universal Supply.

To establish that feeling within one's self, it is wise to think of some simple experience that you have had in life in which you were joyously expectant, whether you go back to your childhood where you felt the joyous exhilaration of a summer's morning; or the experience the *good* from your own "I AM" Presence to be released to a friend. You can feel, for an instant, that joyous exhilaration of the feeling body. Now cultivate that feeling and expect to see and experience the *good* from your own "I AM" Presence to be released to you when the doorbell rings or the postman brings you mail. In this manner, you set up a magnetic current that draws to you all the good that you are waiting and hoping for which makes you an open door for the manifestation of God's Good.

Expectancy is a *command that cannot be denied.* It has been used in reverse a great deal by human beings, for when people have a premonition of evil, they charge their feeling nature so powerfully with the quality of expectancy that the manifestation of evil does occur, but the God-expectancy of Good is an avenue of precipitation that can be developed with great joy to all concerned.

God, the "I AM" Presence, has spoken and said that He cometh with Gifts so plentiful that there will not be room enough to receive them, and yet there is little expectancy and trust in His coming, but rather a continual recognition that there is little help for limitation.

God, the Mighty "I AM" Presence, cometh—the hour you know not—and with Him is coming all the Wealth of His Kingdom.

Affirm daily and hourly: "I *expect* the fullest of all the GOOD in my "I AM" Presence made manifest TODAY!"

No matter how convinced the ego is of its own concepts being correct, there is no one who is not eager to have more light upon his own concepts even if he feels that that Light will but emphasize the Truth of his particular belief, creed, message, or revelation. He does not know that sometimes, in asking for Truth, his concepts may be shattered, although in his spiritual pride, he expected confirmation. Yet, when he asks for Truth, *he shall receive it.*

* * *

Every man has his own small orbit—his sphere of influence—into which is drawn, by karmic ties and circumstances, a certain amount of life energy. This life may be encased in human or elemental form, but its very presence within his personal atmosphere is a manifest sign that it is the responsibility of the individual who *professes* a desire to represent the Holy Comforter to Life—*to love that life free.* Until such a man has brought and sustained comfort to the life which he contacts in his daily and hourly experience, he has not qualified to become a Radiating Center of Cosmic Comfort to the masses.

* * *

You each are known by and express your form of consciousness each moment that you breathe. Man expresses mostly from the outer consciousness of himself; yet if he will identify himself with his True Identity, then in Truth will he express the Consciousness of Heaven itself.

* * *

To live but to amplify some particular Gift of God's beautiful Nature is to live in the happiness of your complete God Freedom, for through the windows of your soul will sweep forth the glory of the Ever-Presence to enrich the world through your invitation.

* * *

Remember that Tolerance is a Virtue which can soon run to seed and become indifference.

* * *

"I AM" the Almighty God: walk before Me and be thou perfect.
(Gen. 17:1)

THE HOLY BIBLE — ITS TEACHINGS AND SYMBOLS

by Chas. C. Smith, F.R.C.

Part 4—*The third stage of the Path.*

> "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with *fire.*" (Matt. 3:11)
> "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:3-4)

In previous articles we have discussed the first two forms of baptism and their meanings. Now we shall consider the meaning of the third form of baptism. While we speak of three baptisms, these are, in reality, three parts of one baptism, and no one part is complete without the other two. Saint Paul said: "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." (Eph. 4:4-6)

Baptism is comparable to the Trinity in that it is divided into three inseparable parts. The first is not completed until the second and third are experienced; and the second and third cannot be completed without the first. They are all steps upon the Spiritual Path; and that path is the only way by which a soul may return to God, the Father. It may be surprising to know that these steps are sometimes separated by years of time. The Path is long and the road is narrow, and up to the present time, it may be said: "few there be that find it." But that will change.

In the days of Jesus, it took the apostles three and a half years of study under the Great Teacher to learn even the first principles of the teachings of the Cosmic Law. With our Dark Age background, it is apt to take the whole of a long life span (and maybe several of them) to travel from the beginning of the path to the end. It must be remembered that we do not go anywhere except back into an Earthly body until we have reached the end of that path. *There are no short cuts.*

A spiritual body will only be given to those who have developed the spiritual nature to such an extent that it has out-grown the need for a physical body. It is like the teen-age boy and last year's suit; it just does not fit. When spiritual development has out-grown the limitations of an Earthly body, it will then receive a new spiritual body. (I Cor. 15:35-58) Developing the spiritual nature is a slow

hard process and usually takes a long time to achieve perfection.

As the baptism of John led to the baptism under Jesus, so did the baptism and teachings of Jesus lead to the third form of these initiations. Just before Jesus was taken from the disciples, He said to them: "I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." (John 14:16-17) Please note these words: "that he may abide with you forever"; "he dwelleth with you"; and "whom the world cannot receive." This same Comforter is, as Jesus promised, still very active—guiding, comforting, inspiring; and still leading those who know and can receive Him into the Ways of Truth. To those who do know Him well, today He is known as the Lord Maha Chohan; and to those on the Path he has done everything that Jesus promised would be done—and more.

The physical manifestation of the third baptism is recorded in the second chapter of the Book of Acts, and is often called the baptism of Pentecost. Sometimes it is called the 'baptism of fire' because it was then that tongues of fire appeared upon the heads of the apostles. Jesus used fire as a symbol of illumination, and that is exactly what the third baptism is. It is the period of the clearing up those things that have appeared and been qualified as mysteries for many years. It is the time when the God Spirit at last becomes the guiding light of one's life. It is the time when it can be said: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Ps. 119:105) Then comes the understanding of what Jesus meant when He said: "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set upon a hill cannot be hid." (Matt. 5:14)

Let us return to the words of Jesus concerning this third baptism. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, *he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance,* whatsoever I have said unto you."

Now what is the meaning of these words? The Comforter is a person—an invisible person ("the world seeth him not") but nevertheless a person just as Jesus was and is. He is a teacher who will teach his students *all* things. If it is true that few find the beginning of this straight and narrow path, how much more likely is it to be true that few find or are admitted into this school of the Great Teacher. In this school, each one works for his Master's degree; each one works to attain the Ascension and that spiritual body; for it is in this graduation that one becomes a *divine being.* (II Peter 1:4)

* * *

Since we have promised to explain how to go about entering

this path of spiritual development, we shall make a few suggestions at this time.

In our last article, we told about the forming of the group now known as the Christian Church; and also that the real secrets of the Christian teachings remained with the Essene group. They are not known today, and never have been known to the group formed at the time of Constantine, the Roman Emperor.

We have also said that while there is very little of the real truth known or taught in most churches, there are still many fine people in all religious groups searching for that truth and know not where to find it. If you are a seeker and are at present a member of some church (regardless of denomination), we sincerely advise you to stay where you are as there are many others who will benefit from association with you as you grow in knowledge. Above all things avoid developing a feeling of "holier than thou" as you progress upon the spiritual pathway. The worst hypocrite in any church is just as precious in the sight of Almighty God as the one sincerely seeking spiritual development. Someday he, too, will seek the Light. We cannot force any issues. The prodigal son will return home after he has learned the necessary lessons. The Father will wait for that day, and we must all learn to do the same thing. To save a drowning man, one must first go to him. We do not have to be reformers. God has a plan of salvation for the race. Let us learn what that plan is and make our own conform to it.

If a person finds that intolerance within his own church makes it impossible to develop without constant conflict, that one should make a change to some other church that is more tolerant and conducive to spiritual expansion, and make himself available to those who need help. Everything that has been explained in these studies has been taught to an adult Bible Class in the church school of one of the leading churches over a period of several years. From that class many have entered into various groups for higher study and some are now working on their master's degree in the school of the Comforter even while they still remain officers in the church of their choice.

In these articles we have mentioned the Essenes as being a group that had a knowledge of the Plans and Purposes of God that is not generally made known to most people. At the present time, the name "Essene" is a rather indefinite word as there are several organizations that have evolved from the Essene group that existed in Palestine at the time of the ministry of Jesus, but as far as we know, none of them now use the name Essene. These groups do, however, have certain things in common, and a person looking for the higher school should look for these features:

1. They believe in a Supreme Being that is in complete control of all things in the universe at all times. They never think of God as a grand old man who, though having the best of intentions, is so slow in His thinking as to be continually outwitted by the devil.
2. The Essenes believe that if evil exists, and they do not deny that it does, that it is permitted by the Supreme Being, and that even that which we call evil will, in God's due time, work out for the good of all. They have no respect for the common belief that life is just a race between two powerful Gods—one good and the other bad—to see who can collect the most pawns—that is, members of the human race.
3. They believe in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of *all* men, and in a gospel that is "Good tidings of great joy which *shall be* to *all* people."
4. They never try to intrude their understanding of higher things into the thinking of other people for they know that Higher Truth is for the *seeker* only.
5. All true Essene groups know and teach the Law of Reincarnation, though in some of them it is taught to beginners in veiled language.

So, the one looking for Truth should find and unite with some group that meets these qualifications. This is the way to a happier and more useful life.

Some of these groups are newly organized around old truths, and some of them have a long and glorious history dating back over three thousand years.

* * *

In our next study, we shall take up the subject of "predestination." It is a subject which has caused confusion among Bible students ever since churches were formed. It *is* taught in the Bible, but the churches have not been able to fit it into their other teachings. We shall discuss it fully in our next article.

THE ROAD TO MASTERY

The establishment and maintenance of specific God Powers which form the radiating centers for the spiritual impetus of the race are drawn, focused and maintained by the self-conscious free will of the individual intelligences who voluntarily engage in such activities.

It has been said by the Illuminati of every age that the Godhead, to express in Its fullness in the world of form, needs a body; and that the God Intelligence must find expression and fulfillment through dedicated lifestreams who form a part of the race who are the beneficiaries of this more than ordinary assistance.

The establishment of the ancient sanctuaries, retreats and foci of Light upon the planet Earth, as well as upon other planets of our System, comes directly under the supervision of the God-Parents of the Universe, and from the Fire Temples around the Sun itself are taken the Spiritual Nuclei for the Flames that are to be established within these Spiritual Foci and, radiating therefrom, hold the balance for the constructive forces through the lower atmosphere in which mankind has chosen to function.

When an individual being belonging to the race chooses to ensoul one of the active principles of the Fire Element, and has, through conscious application and centuries of discipline and dedication of his individual energies, prepared himself for such an honor, he is then vested with the Powers of the Flame at inner levels and the flaming center of that Cosmic Quality is anchored into the heart of his own Spiritual Identity, that through the medium of his physical and inner bodies, the Flame might be anchored into the substance of Earth and, with every heart-beat, increase its momentum of power and sphere of influence.

Before the close of incarnation, such an one has always to pass on the responsibility for guiding and guarding that Flame until a new body can be secured for the original 'anchorite' when the process is again repeated and the momentum and power of that Flaming Spiritual Center is increased by his presence in that locality. This continues for century after century until the Cosmic Law determines the focus to be of sufficient intensity and permanence, and then the anchorite, together with his chosen band of disciples, is allowed to incarnate once more and establish a *permanent* Spiritual Focus which will remain a Radiating Center through which the powers and activities of the Godhead will be focused permanently.

The double activity of the Retreats is the magnetic power which draws the lifestreams of those ready to be benefitted by the accelerations of their own spiritual endeavors, and the diffusing of the Spiritual Qualities whose presence in the atmosphere keep the outer consciousness from devolving into a completely animal state.

As the number and variety of the Cosmic Qualities of the Godhead are limitless, and the evolution of the consciousness of the race makes it possible for more and more self-conscious beings to perceive the Qualities and Powers that might enrich the race, the process of establishing, maintaining and expanding the Spiritual Centers is a continuous one, and although the ancient foci have the momentum and power of centuries of application and devotion to the God Power drawn and nourished by the Spiritual Community, new centers and foci have come into being through the centuries which will, in time, greatly increase the heritage of the race and externalize more of the Nature of the Godhead, not only through the community, but, by radiation, stimulating the growth and development of those Qualities within the consciousness and nature of all mankind who share alike breath, water, air, and the subtle etheric currents which carry the Gifts of the Godhead directly, and through these foci, to the people.

The sun, the primary planets, and the satellites that form a universe have a periphery which closes them in, so to speak, in exactly the same manner that every planet has a localized sphere of influence in order that it might not adversely affect the sister planets of the system until it has achieved a harmonious vibration within which no discord is generated or radiated. These Beings who have achieved the Liberated State are free to rise to any heights within that great sphere of influence, but once a God-Being leaves the localized vibration of His own universe and enters into the Cosmic Highways, becoming subject to the magnetic pull of other suns and systems, He must have developed a tremendous capacity to maintain the course set by the conscious mind, and not be pulled by the magnetic powers of love, attraction, or sympathetic vibration from the Cosmic Highway which proceeds to His destination.

When it is said that the individual pursuing the Road to Mastery must look neither right nor left, but always into the Heart of his own individualized God-Presence, this same Law is the criterion by which the Masters themselves may pursue a course into the Heart of God to secure dispensations, grants, and assistance for a Cause in which They are vitally interested.

Each student should earnestly contemplate the Nature and Activities of his or her own Christ Self in gentle and humble adoration in order that the Christ Self of each one may externalize, not only the Beauty of the Higher Octaves through the lower self into physical manifestation, but also Its *actual Nature and Godliness.*

Have you ever thought—when you call for Purity; or when you

call for Peace—that if some Being had not chosen to qualify primal life with the gift you ask for, that there would be no source of already consecrated Purity, Peace, Healing or Forgiveness? Some intelligences, even like yourselves, facing the Source of All Life, have taken primal life, and through the use of free will, passed the energy of feeling through it and thus created the Foci of these great cosmic gifts. Then, after creating these great Foci, these Beings have stood guard over that qualified life energy, holding it and increasing it with every heart-beat until the hour when it should be *invited* into the world of man. Then a beam from that Cosmic Presence and that aura carries the Virtue into whatever focus it is called.

Those in need of Comfort need only to touch the hem of the garment of the great Holy Spirit and invite a Ray from His great Cosmic Heart which embodies all the magnificence that He has qualified throughout untold ages for use in the day when you would require it. Within that Comfort you will find the gifts of forbearance, of fortitude, of humility, reverence and piety, and all those many ramifications of the Divine Nature of Goodness.

"Before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." (Isa. 65:24)

HOLY COMMUNION

We are not in a day or a time when entertainment of the intellect or peace to the sea of emotion is the order that brings the presence of the Gods close to the humanity of this Earth. We are in an hour when these magnificent Beings are willing and desirous of investing countless tons of primal substance (by which creation takes place and is sustained) in *any lifestream,* no matter what the condition of the vehicle in which it functions, *providing such an one is willing to live now for the Cause.*

Today these Great Masters welcome the invitation that issues from the life energy of mortals by which they may enter our worlds and become companions upon the Pathway of Spiritual Development. It is a beautiful experience for Those who have so long been denied entrance into the minds and feelings of the race to see the doors of the individual consciousnesses opened by the desire for Service, and held wide by the Faith of the individual spirit which, now commanding the soul, shall rise into the mastery which God intended and walk, in full freedom in *communion* with the Perfected Beings, in service to the bound. They bring *Freedom* that we may dispense it. They

bring *Comfort* that we may become the Comforting Presence and thus, in all ways and manners, not only *represent* Them, but *embody their Natures,* for it is only through such dedicated souls that the Great Ones *stand manifest* in the world of men.

To those who gather in the Upper Chamber and stand within the Presence of the Masters comes the opportunity to *bear witness* to the Visitation—not by *word,* but by *living.* From the time that the veil of maya closed the consciousness of mankind away from that Realm of Great Perfection in which the Wise and the Free abide, the Cosmic Law has required that any service from this Realm must be conducted through the consciousness of *those who stand above the masses—who are yet in the world but no longer a part of it.*

Our responsibility and opportunity are without parallel, for what does it profit us if we profess communion with these Great Ones and yet embody not that which mankind seeks—which is the Nature of God. Communion goes further than just the *word*—than even the Visible Presence; and no man, no matter how dense the clothing of the senses, is so lost that he cannot perceive the embodied nature of those who have entered into the *feeling* of the Brothers and Sisters who form the Great White Lodge, and who have voluntarily taken upon Themselves the obligation to accept students.

In the past, the evolution of the individual formed the basic interest of the White Lodge, and the acceptance of a student or disciple was predominantly based on the assumption that the one desiring to rise above the masses might ultimately be free, and such individuals, leaving the slower progress of the race, did often attain their Victory and pass into their Eternal Liberation. Today, the dispensation under which individuals are given the blessing and attention of the Masters is based on the *service* that can be rendered the race as a whole, and the measure of such association will be determined by the *balance* offered to the Cosmic Law *by each such an one.*

Love being the Nature of these Great Masters, it is difficult for them to remain impersonal enough to consider only the balance of energy in the granting of a favor or the withholding of a grace; but in the wider scope of Illumined Consciousness, seeing well what each grant requires in balance from the soul so favored, sometimes it is fairer, by far, to withhold more knowledge, more counsel (with its resultant obligation to show results before the Court of Heaven) than it would be to grant that which Love would indicate to be pleasing to the hungry, knowing that the tenacity of spirit, the integrity of the soul, and the constancy of the nature are *not yet unfolded* to a point where the full significance of such investment of both time and counsel *can be grasped.*

Individual mastery and balance must precede the release of Gifts

and Powers which can form the control of every appearance which might be spewed forth on the screen of maya, not only from the consciousness of the race embodied, but from the vast solidified mass of etheric creations that have not been redeemed, but which, like the frozen ice of the North, have been mercifully atrophied in order that a race could survive. Even this, ere the Earth's redemption can manifest, must be purified, redeemed, and transmuted.

The Word (which is the embodied Nature of the Godhead) must become flesh and dwell among the conditions that are to be raised. The Kingdom of Heaven is truly at our very hands, if we would but reach out and claim It as an integral part of our world. It is thus that we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, the Christ, of Whom John speaks when he writes in his first chapter—and the 14th verse: "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only one begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth."

BUILDERS OF FORM

Following up our article in the June issue of this magazine concerning Mother Nature and Her Assistants, we would like to continue with a few details in connection with that portion of elemental life known to us as the Body Elemental.

While unseen and practically unknown in the outer world, it is the function of this being to work with the Cosmic Builders of Form. These include the mighty Beings whose various functions were called into action during the creation of this and other planets of our Solar System.

Each lifestream, before its first incarnation, was joined to an Elemental being in a solemn ceremony at inner levels. This Elemental was charged to remain with the lifestream as long as it should desire to inhabit a physical body in order to keep the body in repair and in all ways make it a habitable Temple.

Pure electronic Light Substance was given into the keeping of the Body Elemental who was allowed to look upon the perfection of the Christ Self which was to be the pattern for the form it would build with the substance of the third dimensional plane.

At first the creation of the body was a joyous and happy experience. The flesh forms of the early ages of man's habitation upon the planet Earth were beautiful beyond words to describe, and truly a Golden Age of Beauty prevailed. As the Etheric Body continually

outpictured the full glory of the Christ Self, it was used as the pattern so that the Body Elemental could refer to it from time to time. The Elemental took up its abode within the Temple it had builded, and like a housekeeper or a caretaker, maintained the functions which kept the body in workable order. Thus the association between the dweller and the Elemental was a happy one.

When man began to experiment with the use of energy, and to build into his Etheric Body certain distortions of form and impurities of essence (the Fall of Man) the Body Elemental became confused because the pattern was distorted, and it OBEDIENTLY began to build distortions into the flesh. You will remember, that in our previous article we mentioned the fact that these elemental beings mirror the things that are drawn to their attention.

The form of the body which the ego will assume at the times of incarnation, its characteristics, strength or weaknesses, lie within the evolved nature of this Elemental which has an intelligence and a will of its own. Over a period of centuries, it becomes very positive and very spoiled, on occasion, when it has been given its own way. In cases where tremendous power is focused through a lifestream, the Body Elemental is always stronger by reason of that power anchored into the cells of the physical structure. In other cases, through abuses and excesses of the human form which continually oppose its endeavors to build and outpicture the Christ Self, the Elemental becomes rebellious, sullen, and often openly antagonistic to the soul and the personal ego to which it is assigned. Cancer and disintegration of bodily unity are usually manifestations of this state of affairs.

When a lifestream is called forth at inner levels for incarnation, it usually appears within the Etheric Body wherein is recorded all the experiences it has passed through. The Body Elemental is also called at this time and there is quite often a 'scene' because the Elemental rightfully objects to using its energy to mould and form a body as distorted as the Etheric Body of its partner on this long journey. When the substance which the soul has charged with its energy, pure or otherwise, is given to the Elemental to weave into the new physical form, again it is often reluctant to take such impure substance, and wherever possible, it saves the 'best' of the elements for the outside and puts the impure substance inside the form.

Thus it can be seen that, after centuries of trying to reproduce the Christ Self with the substance provided by the lifestream and the tremendous strain of working against the appetites and passions which the individual developed when it fell from Purity and Grace, the Body Elemental soon developed an antipathy toward the lifestream with which it was forced to work. It was then no longer a co-operative,

loving helper, but blocked the projects and designs of the individual whenever possible.

When the individual comes to a point of understanding and endeavors to abide by the Laws of Purity and abstinence from those activities which break down the structure of the physical form, there is the beginning of a new association and friendship between the individual and the Body Elemental. This, however, is not builded up in the matter of an instant, for centuries of abuse and careless use of the Temple created and sustained by this Elemental is not easily forgotten. Then, too, the Elemental must wait for the purification of the etheric envelope which forms its pattern. When this Etheric Body does resume its Light Pattern of the Christ Self, then the Body Elemental can quickly outpicture it through the flesh.

Peace, unity, harmony, and understanding among one's own members (body, mind, soul (personality) and God-Self are essential to equanamity and progress on the Path. To fight the Body Elemental is useless; to pamper it is to lose it. To become acquainted with it in the mature dignity of the Master of the household when required to direct his immediate staff, is Wisdom. This is equally true of the soul. When this is understood and conscientiously applied, we shall again have some of the 'bodies enduring' that are absolutely non-recordant to disease, disintegration, and finally—death.

NATURE'S CATHEDRAL

In the brook I hear an anthem;
And a prayer upon the breeze;
Hymns of praise are gently rising
From the birds among the trees.
Down the aisles, I tread so softly
Carpet made of moss-green sod;
Hearing sermons from the flowers
Blooming in this House of God.
Through the leafy stained-glass windows,
Sunbeams play in ribbons bright,
On the Altar where God's Presence
Reflects Peace in Holy Light.
Bluebells now begin their chiming—
Nature's carillons so sweet;
As I contemplate this Beauty,
Adoration is complete.
Trees above form Gothic arches;
Then beyond—the cloudless sky.
Surely in this Sanctuary,
God Himself is very nigh.

JAMES BRIDGLAND

TIME LAPSE

At an illustrated lecture, pictures were projected on the screen showing the actions of flowers during the process of their opening. The modus operandi whereby such films are obtained is akin to that adopted in producing ordinary motion pictures, but immensely prolonged in the case of the slow opening of the flowers, while the results are compressed into a few seconds of projection.

Several instances were given; amongst others, the graceful unfolding of the rose and the impetuous behavior of the crocus. It was curious to note the deliberateness of the snow-drop. Shyly she seemed to peep at the sun from slowly separating petals, and then decisively, through an actual space of six hours, spread her shields of white—displaying to the day "Heaven's rich gift of beauty" made more effective by the drooping of the lovely head.

Far otherwise was the development of the nasturtium. Martian methods seemed proper to its destined livery of red and orange. Unlike the snow-drop, which rose among slender and protecting stems of green, the flower of the red plant had to fight its way among leaves broad and thickly massed like the crowds of life. Strenuously it pushed upward among its fellows; shook off the elbowing leaves; and with an earnestness that was almost hysterical, sought for the correct angle to catch the sunlight, and having found the light, tore its red and golden petals open to the sun.

Many are the types of opening flowers. Many are the types of developing souls. The infinite labor and time—as it seems to us—requisite for the development and opening of our Selves through scores of incarnations teeming with experiences tending to educate the character, might conceivably be projected on the screen of God in the twinkling of an eye.

How strange would appear to Him the anxieties of our Egos!

GOD'S ALTAR

In my heart there is an altar
Where I contemplate each day;
There the world seems so much brighter,
And the shadows flee away.
There I'm given understanding
Of the man upon the street;
And I see the Christ expanding
In all people that I meet.
Here no race, no color binds us;
Only Love and Truth and Joy;
Happiness we sought now finds us—
All is real—without alloy.

THE LITTLE OLD BOOKSTORE

A little way along our street,
Passed by a myriad hurrying feet,
Stands a quaint old-fashioned store—
A veritable treasure-house of lore.
There is displayed, in letters bold,
A sign which says: "Books bought and sold."
And through the window-pane so clear,
You see the volumes—tier on tier.
One day, while walking near the shop,
My daughter, wife, and I did stop
To see if there might be on sale
A book that would some lore unveil.
We went inside, and there we found
A dear old lady sitting 'round
A little fire; and then she rose
To greet us in a friendly pose.
She spoke; she knew we'd understand
She'd come from some far distant land.
My wife then said to her: "What part?"
The lady's answer made her start.
"And so do I." That one remark
Found a sympathetic mark;
So then the conversation went
Reminiscing to extent.
She admitted seeing better days;
And life she'd seen—in many ways;
But in her purity of mind,
She seemed to think Fate not unkind.
"I do not make a fortune here,"
She said. I knew she was sincere
When God she thanked for her mean lot,
And never other pleasure sought.
My little girl seemed quite concerned
When, at length, we homeward turned.
"You never hear her sigh or fret,
And she must be kind of poor, I'll bet."
"But happiness," was my reply,
"Is something wealth can never buy.
She has her books; she's rich indeed;
In them souls find the food they need."
You ask the value of her store?
A million dollars. Maybe more!

No purse of gold could e'er replace
The glow that lights her lovely face.
For one who understands the soul
Can smallest joys of life extol.
I really think she's happy there;
Her peace of mind I'd gladly share.

HEALTH, HOW TO ATTAIN IT

by Margaret Moore

GOOD HEALTH is the Will of God for each and everyone of His children and when it does not manifest, then it is a clear reminder that the individual has transgressed some Divine Law and he alone is responsible for the distress and not God!

What is *good health?* It would seem to be such perfect functioning of each part of the physical body that you are almost unaware of the body except as a wonderful instrument in which you reside very comfortably to gain experience here in the outer world and give a blessing to all life. Then the CAUSE of ill-health would have to be something that interferred with the perfect functioning of some part of the body, and just how that happens is what we are going to explain.

The wise man does not ignore the body as something low and unworthy of the attention and neither does he pamper it and endeavor to satisfy its insatiable demands, but he sees that it is kept immaculately clean, inside and out, that it is dressed comfortably, and gives it the food which is required to sustain it in energy and strength; and it is a wise individual indeed who then endeavors to make sure that the INNER causes of disease and distress never manifest in his world, for he knows the CAUSES of all distress for himself and all mankind, are located in the thoughts and feelings, and he will endeavor to gain control of them as speedily as possible.

The Beloved Jesus said truly, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he," and since the heart is also the center of *feeling,* then it can rightfully be said, "What a man thinks and feels will manifest in his body and affairs!"

If you would have greater perfection in your world of every kind, then learn to control your creative processes of *thought and feeling* and generate those CAUSES which can only bring an EFFECT of PERFECTION.

OPULENCE, THE WAY TO ENJOY IT

by Ralph Yancey

No one can be truly happy without being free from physical pain, free from mental anxieties, free from prejudices and hatred, and also free from lack and limitation. Therefore, the OPULENCE OF GOD is a neecssary requisite to happiness. Most people have an opulence of some particular God gift but may be lacking in another and while an opulence of good health, an opulence of kindliness and good will, BALANCE is also one of God's Great Jewels and if there is an appearance of lack of supply, then that is the facet that needs to be worked on to bring it into balance with an Opulence of Supply.

It is not always necessary to have a large income or great sums of money or securities in the bank to be opulent, but if you have what you need and desire when you require it, THAT then, is Opulence in its true sense. Since the thoughts and feelings play such an important part in each one's life, then it is necessary to FEEL God's limitless supply of every good thing, including money—and when you hold to that for yourself and all God's children—you will find when the test comes, that as you hold fast in your faith in God—what you need will be forthcoming! Isn't that better than to have to worry about safeguarding large sums of money or jewels?

Do you truly FEEL that God IS your supply, or that someone here in the outer is? Have you proven that? What all mankind needs at this time is the actual physical manifestation of the affirmations of faith to convince each one that GOD IS REAL and the owner and giver of every good thing there is; that GOD IS EVERYWHERE, not punishing people but GIVING THEM LIFE, intelligence, health, peace, and supply. What you have FAITH in will manifest in your world, and when you pin your faith on a job, money in the bank, or someone here in the outer world—only when you recognize such avenues as *channels* and put your real faith in God, will you know the feeling of peace and security from the outer pressures and the true Opulence of God flow into your world.

Try seeing in your mind as clearly as possible the supply of money you require, the beautiful home you would like, the new car you need, or whatever it may be.

God acts THROUGH PEOPLE and does not drop things out of the sky to you, but when you hold the SILENCE about what you are doing, and practice it faithfully each day (seeing in your mind what you want) you are tapping into a Law that nothing can interfere with and the Opulence of God will flow into your hands and use of every kind and description and you will KNOW God is your supply!

PEACE, ITS PRACTICAL USES

by Fred Bruce

Peace must be felt, lived and radiated by the individual before it can become a world fact. Permanent peace must be entertained first in the mind, the feelings and the heart and then it will be manifested in a person's surroundings and the nation itself—not before. The attainment of lasting peace is a very simple process. It is a daily Ascension from all thoughts and feelings of sickness, lack and discord into the glorious thoughts and feelings of Celestial Happiness, where there is only health, holiness, opulence and harmony.

If every morning you resolve to refuse to feed your energy (which is God's life) into the disturbing appearances of the day by not accepting them, and wisely you strengthen the God Virtue of harmony, you will soon cease misqualifying your life energy, and you will start to qualify it rightly, as you have been told a thousand times. This will bring a lasting peace to your home, your environment, your nation and the Earth.

But should the misqualifications of the years appear very strong in a given place, and you do not seem to be able to cope with them, the road will be opened for you to change your place, because of your Divine Right is to live in a happy home, as children and heirs of God.

You have the promise of Beloved Jesus, when He said, "In My Father's house are *many mansions,* if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." So you see, beloved reader, the home you are seeking is seeking you, it is waiting for you, it is calling you, it wants you to live in it—not after so called death, as this statement has been wrongly interpreted, but right now.

Your real home is in heaven, where lasting peace reigns: you can enjoy that lasting Peace *now* in your thoughts, feelings and in your daily living as quickly as you ascend daily from inharmonious thoughts and feelings into the higher lasting peace-producing vibrations. This is the service not only of the head of the family but of every member of the household.

Remember daily another promise of the Ascended Master Jesus, "Come unto Me all ye that are burdened and heavy laden and I will give you rest (peace)."